



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 423

February Session, 2010

* ____SB00423GAE__032410__ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
CONNECTICUT TOWN CLERKS CONCERNING ELECTION LAWS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

3 Ballots shall be printed in [black ink, in] plain clear type [,] and on
4 clear white material of such size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be
5 furnished by the registrar of voters. The size and style of the type used
6 to print the name of a political party on a ballot shall be identical with
7 the size and style of the type used to print the names of all other
8 political parties appearing on such ballot. The name of each major
9 party candidate for a municipal office, as defined in section 9-372,
10 [except for the municipal offices of state senator and state
11 representative,] shall appear on the ballot as [it appears on the registry
12 list of the candidate's town of voting residence, except as provided in
13 section 9-42a] the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot,
14 pursuant to the certificate filed or the statement of consent filed. The
15 name of each major party candidate for a state or district office, as
16 defined in section 9-372, or for [the] a municipal office [of state senator
17 or state representative] shall appear on the ballot as it appears on the
18 certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, subsection
19 [(b)] (c) of section 9-391, or section 9-400 or 9-409, as amended by this

20 act. The name of each minor party candidate shall appear on the ballot
21 as it appears on the [registry list] certificate or statement of consent
22 filed under section 9-388, or in accordance with the provisions of
23 section 9-452, as amended by this act. The name of each nominating
24 petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as [it is verified by the
25 town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b] the candidate
26 authorizes it to appear on the ballot, pursuant to the certificate filed or
27 the statement of consent filed. The size and style of the type used to
28 print the name of a candidate on a ballot shall be identical with the size
29 and style of the type used to print the names of all other candidates
30 appearing on such ballot. Such ballot shall contain the names of the
31 offices and the names of the candidates arranged thereon. The names
32 of the political parties and party designations shall be arranged on the
33 ballots, either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-
34 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the
35 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. [When
36 two or more candidates are to be elected to the same office, the] The
37 ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate [that] how many
38 candidates the elector may vote for, [any two or such other number as
39 he is entitled to vote for,] provided in the case of a town adopting the
40 provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate the maximum
41 number of candidates who may be elected to such office from any
42 party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same office for
43 different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be printed
44 on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any election,
45 one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill a
46 vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in
47 the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate
48 the term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No
49 column, under the name of any political party or independent
50 organization, shall be printed on any official ballot, which contains
51 more candidates for any office than the number for which an elector
52 may vote for that office.

53 Sec. 2. Section 9-409 of the general statutes is repealed and the

54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

55 Petition forms for candidacies for nomination to municipal office or
56 for election as members of town committees shall be available from the
57 registrar beginning on the day following the making of the party's
58 endorsement of a candidate or candidates for such office or position, or
59 beginning on the day following the final day for the making of such
60 endorsement under the provisions of section 9-391, as amended by this
61 act, whichever comes first. Any person who requests a petition form
62 shall give his name and address and the name, address and office or
63 position sought of each candidate for whom the petition is being
64 obtained, and shall file a statement signed by each such candidate that
65 he consents to be a candidate for such office or position. [In the case of
66 the municipal offices of state senator and state representative, each]
67 Each such candidate shall include on the statement of consent his
68 name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot. Upon receiving such
69 information and statement, the registrar shall type or print on a
70 petition form the name and address of each such candidate, the office
71 sought and the political party holding the primary. The registrar shall
72 give to any person requesting such form one or more petition pages,
73 suitable for duplication, as the registrar deems necessary. If the person
74 is requesting the form on behalf of an indigent candidate or a group of
75 indigent candidates listed on the same petition, the registrar shall give
76 the person a number of petition pages determined by the registrar as at
77 least two times the number needed to contain the required number of
78 signatures for a candidacy for nomination to municipal office or a
79 number of petition pages determined by the registrar as at least five
80 times the number needed to contain the required number of signatures
81 for a candidacy for election as a town committee member. An original
82 petition page filled in by the registrar may be duplicated by or on
83 behalf of the candidate or candidates listed on the page and signatures
84 may be obtained on such duplicates. The duplicates may be filed in the
85 same manner and shall be subject to the same requirements as original
86 petition pages. All information relative to primary petitions shall be a
87 public record.

88 Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is
89 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
90 *1, 2010*):

91 (a) At the top of each ballot [label] shall be printed the name of the
92 party holding the primary, and each ballot [label] shall contain the
93 names of all candidates to be voted upon at such primary, except the
94 names of justices of the peace. The vertical columns shall be headed by
95 the designation of the office or position and instructions as to the
96 number for which an elector may vote for such office or position, in the
97 same manner as a ballot [label] used in a regular election. The name of
98 each candidate for town committee or municipal office, [except for the
99 municipal offices of state senator and state representative,] shall
100 appear on the ballot [label as it appears on the registry list of such
101 candidate's town of voting residence] as the candidate authorizes it to
102 appear on the ballot, pursuant to the certificate filed or the statement of
103 consent filed, except as provided in section 9-42a, as amended by this
104 act. The name of each candidate for state or district office or for the
105 municipal offices of state senator or state representative shall appear
106 on the ballot as it appears on the certificate or statement of consent
107 filed under section 9-388, 9-391, as amended by this act, 9-400 or 9-409,
108 as amended by this act. On the first horizontal line, below the
109 designation of the office or position in each column, shall be placed the
110 name of the party-endorsed candidate for such office or position, such
111 name to be marked with an asterisk; provided, where more than one
112 person may be voted for for any office or position, the names of the
113 party-endorsed candidates shall be arranged in alphabetical order
114 from left to right under the appropriate office or position designation
115 and shall continue, if necessary, from left to right on the next lower
116 line or lines. In the case of no party endorsement there shall be inserted
117 the designation "no party endorsement" at the head of the vertical
118 column, immediately beneath the designation of the office or position.
119 On the horizontal lines below the line for party-endorsed candidates
120 shall be placed, in the appropriate columns, the names of all other
121 candidates as hereinafter provided.

122 Sec. 4. Section 2-30a of the general statutes is repealed and the
123 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

124 (a) At such time as a proposed constitutional amendment [is] and its
125 concomitant ballot question are approved by the General Assembly for
126 presentation to the electors of the state for their consideration at a
127 general election, the Office of Legislative Research shall prepare a
128 concise explanatory text as to the content and purpose of the proposed
129 constitutional amendment subject to the approval of the joint standing
130 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
131 constitutional amendments. Upon such approval, the Secretary of the
132 State shall cause such proposed amendment and such explanatory text
133 to be printed and transmitted to the town clerk in each town in the
134 state in sufficient supply for public distribution.

135 (b) The Secretary of the State shall print the explanations of
136 proposed constitutional amendments, as required by subsection (a) of
137 this section, on posters of a size to be determined by said secretary and
138 shall mail at least three such posters for every polling place within a
139 town, to the [town clerk] registrars of voters. Said [clerk] registrars
140 shall cause at least three such posters to be posted at each polling place
141 at which electors shall be voting on such proposed constitutional
142 amendments. Any posters received by [a town clerk] the registrars in
143 excess of the number required by this subsection to be so posted may
144 be displayed by said [clerk at his] registrars at their discretion at
145 locations which are frequented by the public. No expenditure of state
146 funds shall be made to influence electors to vote for or against any
147 such proposed constitutional amendment.

148 Sec. 5. Section 9-42a of the general statutes is repealed and the
149 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

150 [(a) As used in this section, the term "municipal office" shall be
151 construed as defined in section 9-372, except that such term shall not
152 include the municipal offices of state senator and state representative.]

153 [(b)] (a) On the written request of any elector who identifies himself

154 to the satisfaction of the registrars of voters, such registrars shall make
155 any changes in the name of such elector as it appears on the registry
156 list, provided such elector furnishes reasonable evidence to the
157 registrars that the name as changed is a lawful name of such elector.
158 No such change shall be made between the Tuesday of the fifth week
159 before a regular election and the day of such election.

160 [(c)] (b) No such change in the name of a candidate at a primary
161 shall affect the name of the candidate as it appears on the primary
162 ballot. [unless the elector is a candidate for town committee or
163 municipal office and the change is made not later than the twenty-
164 ninth day preceding the day of the primary.] No such change in the
165 name of a major party candidate at an election shall affect the name of
166 such candidate as it appears on the election ballot. [unless the elector is
167 a candidate for municipal office and the change is made not later than
168 the fifty-fifth day preceding the day of such election.] No such change
169 in the name of a minor party candidate or a nominating petition
170 candidate for any office at an election shall affect the name of such
171 candidate as it appears on the election ballot. [unless the change is
172 made not later than the fifty-fifth day preceding the day of the
173 election.]

174 Sec. 6. Section 9-232j of the general statutes is repealed and the
175 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

176 The moderator of the election in each voting district shall appear at
177 the office of the [town clerk] registrars of voters not later than eight
178 o'clock p.m. of the day before an election for federal office. At such
179 time, the [town clerk] registrars of voters shall provide a provisional
180 ballot packet to such moderator or moderators. Each packet shall
181 include: (1) The appropriate number of provisional ballots for federal
182 office provided by the Secretary of the State, which shall be equal to
183 not less than one per cent of the number of electors who are eligible to
184 vote in the voting district served by the moderator, or such other
185 number as the municipal clerk and the registrars agree is sufficient to
186 protect electors' voting rights, (2) the appropriate number of serially-

187 numbered envelopes prescribed by the Secretary, (3) a provisional
188 ballot inventory form, (4) a provisional ballot depository envelope, and
189 (5) other necessary forms prescribed by the Secretary.

190 Sec. 7. Subsection (a) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is
191 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
192 *1, 2010*):

193 (a) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the
194 nomination of candidates for municipal office to be voted upon at a
195 municipal election, or for the election of town committee members
196 shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the
197 fifty-sixth day or later than the forty-ninth day preceding the day of
198 such primary. The endorsement shall be certified to the clerk of the
199 municipality by either (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the
200 secretary of the town committee, caucus or convention, as the case may
201 be, not later than four o'clock p.m. on the forty-eighth day preceding
202 the day of such primary. Such certification shall contain the name
203 [and] of each such endorsed candidate as the candidate authorizes it to
204 appear on the ballot, the signature of each such endorsed candidate,
205 the street address of each person so endorsed, the title of the office or
206 the position as committee member and the name or number of the
207 political subdivision or district, if any, for which each such person is
208 endorsed. If such a certificate of a party's endorsement is not received
209 by the town clerk by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and
210 such party, for purposes of sections 9-417, 9-418 and 9-419, shall be
211 deemed to have neither made nor certified such endorsement of any
212 candidate for such office.

213 Sec. 8. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the
214 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

215 All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office shall
216 make such nominations and certify and file a list of such nominations,
217 as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second day prior to
218 the day of the election at which such candidates are to be voted for. A

219 list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes each
220 candidate's name as each candidate authorizes it to appear on the
221 ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each
222 candidate and the title and district of the office for which each
223 candidate was nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of
224 the committee, meeting or other authority making such nomination
225 and shall be filed by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the
226 State, in the case of state or district office or the municipal office of
227 state representative, state senator or judge of probate, or with the clerk
228 of the municipality, in the case of municipal office, not later than the
229 sixty-second day prior to the day of the election. The clerk of such
230 municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such
231 list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to him by the
232 Secretary of the State, in accordance with the registry list of such
233 municipality and endorse the same as having been so verified and
234 corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of nominations shall be
235 deemed to be filed when it is received by the secretary or clerk, as
236 appropriate.

237 Sec. 9. Section 9-461 of the general statutes is repealed and the
238 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

239 Not later than the seventh day following the date set for the primary
240 for nomination at any election at which a municipal office is to be
241 filled, the clerk of the municipality in which such election is to be held
242 shall file with the Secretary of the State a list of the candidates of each
243 party for the municipal offices to be filled at such election nominated
244 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Such list shall be on a
245 form provided by the Secretary of the State and shall indicate the name
246 and address of each candidate and the office and term for which each
247 candidate has been nominated, and, except for major party candidates
248 for the municipal offices of state senator or state representative, shall
249 contain the certification of such municipal clerk that he has compared
250 the name of each such candidate with the candidate's name as [it
251 appears on the registry list] the candidate authorizes it to appear on
252 the ballot, pursuant to the certificate filed in accordance with

253 subsection (c) of section 9-391, or the statement of consent filed in
 254 accordance with section 9-409, as amended by this act, as applicable,
 255 and has verified and corrected the same. In the case of major party
 256 candidates for the municipal offices of state senator or state
 257 representative, such list shall contain the certification of the [town]
 258 municipal clerk that he has compared the name of each such candidate
 259 with the candidate's name as the candidate has authorized, on the
 260 certificate or statement of consent filed under subsection [(b)] (c) of
 261 section 9-391 or section 9-409, as amended by this act, his name to
 262 appear, and has verified and corrected the same. Such list shall include
 263 a statement of the total number of candidates for which each elector
 264 may vote for each office and term at such election as set forth in the list
 265 or amendment or supplement thereto filed with the Secretary of the
 266 State under section 9-254. After the filing of such list of candidates, the
 267 clerk of the municipality shall forthwith notify the Secretary of the
 268 State of any errors in such list or of any changes in such list provided
 269 for in section 9-329a or 9-460.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-250
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-409
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-437(a)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	2-30a
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-42a
Sec. 6	<i>from passage</i>	9-232j
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-391(a)
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-452
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-461

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Corrected internal references in sections 1 and 9 and made grammatical corrections in sections 3 and 4(a).

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*